

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 05054 162055Z
ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6249
INFO USMISSION USNATO

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USOECD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AORG, NATO, OECD
SUBJECT: 20 PERCENT COL OFFSET

REFS: (A) STATE 21588, (B) USNATO 902, (C) USNATO 1456

1. MISSION HAS DELAYED SUBMITTING VIEWS ON THIS SUBJECT IN ORDER TO ASSESS IMPACT OF DECISION ON OECD STAFF ASSOCIATION AND WEIGH OUR VIEWS TOGETHER WITH THOSE OF OTHER OECD DELS.

2. WHILE WE APPRECIATE VIEWS OF USNATO (REF B), WE DO NOT BELIEVE THIS ISSUE IS ONE ON WHICH U.S. NEED TAKE LEAD. WE FEEL IT IMPORTANT FOR U.S. DEL TO HAVE FLEXIBLE INSTRUCTIONS TO ENABLE HIM TO GO ALONG WITH MAJORITY VIEWS. U.S. DEL HAS, OF COURSE, MADE POINTS REFTEL B AT JANUARY AND EARLIER CCG MEETINGS; AND IF INSTRUCTED, WOULD AGAIN REPEAT THIS POSITION. HOWEVER, WE FORESEE SITUATION DEVELOPING (REF C) WHERE, U.S. COULD BE ONLY DEL UNABLE TO ENDORSE ADDITIONAL 20 PERCENT COL. IN ADDITION TO POSITIONS OF NEW CHAIRMAN (BELGIUM) AND UK DEL AS REPORTED REF C, OUR CANVASS INDICATES NETHERLANDS AND ITALY MAY NOW APPROVE ADDITION-
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AL 20 PERCENT COL ADJUSTMENT. JAPANESE DEL, WHO ALSO FAVORED 80 PERCENT FIGURE AT JANUARY CCG MEETING, DOES NOT ATTEND BRUSSELS MEETINGS OF COMMITTEE. GERMANS ALREADY ON RECORD FAVORING 100 PERCENT. WE SEE NO PURPOSE TO BE SERVED FOR THE U.S. TO BE EITHER IN THE MINORITY OR EVEN ISOLATED ON AN ISSUE WHICH IS ALMOST TRIVIAL, BUT WHICH HAS CONSIDERABLE SIGNIFICANCE IN

TERMS OF STAFF MORALE.

3. WOULD APPRECIATE INSTRUCTIONS ENABLING U.S. DEL TO
GO ALONG WITH MAJORITY AT FEBRUARY 22 CCG MEETING.
KATZ

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